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than in the open air. It should be tried, how, and with what proportion of disadvantage, the voice will be carried in a horn, or an arched line; or in a trumpet, which is a retorted line; or in a pipe, that is sinuous.

It is certain, that sounds are producible without air; though this be the most favourable medium thereof. For a pair of tongs opened and shut at some depth within water, may be heard without any great diminution of the sound; though there is no air at all present. Take one vessel of silver, and another of wood, fill each of them with water, and then strike the tongs together, as before, about four inches from the bottom; and the sound in the silver vessel will be much more resonant than in that of wood: yet if there be no water in the vessel, so that the tongs play in the air, there will be no difference between the sound coming from the silver or the wooden vessel. Whence, besides the capital point of producing sound without air, we may collect, that the sound communicates with the bottom of the vessel; and that such a communication passes better through water than air.

Strike any hard bodies together, in the midst of flame; and the sound will differ little from the sound in air.

The pneumatical part, which is in all tangible bodies, and has some affinity with air, performs, after a sort, the office of the air: thus the sound of an empty barrel is in part created by the air on the outside, and in part by that in the inside: for the sound will be less, or greater, as the barrel is more or less empty: though it communicates also with the spirit in the wood, through which it passes from the outside to the inside. So likewise in the chiming of bells on the outside; the sound passes to the inside.

It were gross to think, that the sound in strings is produced between the finger and the string: for these are but preparatories to the production of the sound, which is formed between the string and the air; and that not by any impulse of the air, from the first motion of the string; but by the return of the string (now strained by the touch) to its former place: which motion of return, is quick and sharp; whereas the first motion is soft and dull. So the bow tortures the string continually, and thereby holds it in a constant trepidation.

(To be continued.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An Amateur Organist who requires a music book for psalm and hymn tunes, should apply himself to our publishers, where he will probably find what he requires.

Musicians wish to be informed of the name of the organist at the late Handel Festival, and asks why he was not mentioned in the different newspaper accounts of the festival. The organist was Mr. Brownsmith, and we can only suppose that his not having been particularly mentioned arose purely from an oversight; we must certainly plead that excuse for our loss. Mr. Brownsmith is always deserving of praise, and his performance at the late Festival was all that could be desired; he displayed excellent judgment and great steadiness, and there is no doubt he contributed very materially to the success of the undertaking.

W.H.T. is referred to Messrs. Cramer and Co., of Regent Street, for a work on National Music, by Mr. W. Chappell; and he will no doubt obtain information respecting national anthems, from Sir J. Hawkins' History of Music, published by Novello and Co.

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

ASHWELL, HERTS.—On the 1st of August the singing class of this village performed a selection of sacred and secular glees, under the direction of Mr. Norman. Refreshments were provided for the company, who numbered about 250.

BLUNTISHAM.—The Choir of Bluntisham Chapel gave a concert of sacred and secular music on Wednesday, the 6th ult., under the direction of their conductor, Mr. John Wheatley. There was a marked advance in the performance generally.

BURNLEY.—The new organ at the West-gate Congregational Chapel was opened on the 30th of July, by Mr. Best, organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool. Several excellent compositions were played by Mr. Best, in admirable style, including the *Andante* from Haydn's Quartett in F; an *Andantino* from Spohr's Symphony, "The Power of Sound; and the grand "Hallelujah" chorus from Beethoven's *Engedi*.

CARTHORPE.—On the 8th ult. a concert was given at this village, by Mr. Prendergast, who presided at the pianoforte. He was ably assisted by Miss Maria Wilson and Mr. Halgate, a violin player, and a chorus of about thirty singers.

CHARLOTTE STREET, BUCKINGHAM GATE.—The monthly concert of the Choral Society in connection with St. Peter's Chapel, took place on the 13th of August, under the presidency of the Incumbent, when a good selection of vocal and instrumental music, chiefly from the old masters, was performed. Much praise is due to the organist, Mr. H. Piper, who conducted upon the occasion.

ECCELESIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—A concert took place at the rooms of the Architectural Union on the 30th of July, at which the motett choir of the Ecclesiological Society performed a selection of ancient church music. The principal feature of the programme was Palestrina's Mass, which was sung in latin, and was rendered much more effective by the versicles and prayers, always said by the priest, being chanted by the Rev. Mr. Helmore. The music of Palestrina is wonderfully elaborate, and though there are not three bars of melody throughout, it is a most interesting Mass, containing as it does so much learned contrapuntal writing. The programme also comprised a latin psalm and a latin hymn, which were given in a truly Catholic style; and there were also English hymns and psalms to Gregorian chants. The music had evidently been practised with assiduity, and it must have cost Mr. Helmore's boys considerable time and trouble to master the difficulties. If a few ladies with good voices had been introduced, the soprano part would have been more effective.

HEREFORD.—A presentation has been forwarded to Mr. George Townshend Smith, organist of Hereford Cathedral, from the stewards of the late musical festival, in testimony of their appreciation of his services as conductor of the music performed on that occasion. This well-deserved tribute of respect for Mr. Smith's services, consists of an inkstand mounted on a shield-shaped stand, around the edges of which, in an embossed border, is a gracefully designed wreath, formed of musical instruments and floral ornamentation, executed with spirit and effect.

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.—A concert was given on the 18th of August, by the blind pupils of the St. John's Wood Institution, conducted by Mr. Barnes. The performance exhibited the marked improvement which has taken place among the pupils.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. Best has been giving performances at St. George's Hall upon the grand organ during the last month. The most attractive pieces in the programmes have been a "Romanza" from Haydn's Symphony, *La Reine de France*, and the *Andantino* from Spohr's *Power of*

Sound. The concerts have been well attended, and Mr. Best's playing has been universally admired.

LLANSAMLET, NEAR NEATH.—An open air Musical Contest was held at this place on Wednesday, the 28th of July, when various prizes, from £5 downwards, were awarded for the best choral and part-singing. A detachment of the Swansea Valley Choral Association took the whole of the prizes. Four choirs competed. The Rev. J. Roberts, (Lenan Gwyllt), adjudicated. President, Mr. Gwilym Williams, Ynyscynor, Aberdare.

ORGANIST APPOINTMENTS.—Miss E. Cotterell has recently been appointed organist of Redland Church, Bristol. Her sister, Miss J. Cotterell, has been appointed organist of Portwall Lane Wesleyan Chapel.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—A society, under the title of the Amateur Choral Class, has been formed in this town, for the practical study of vocal music, specially designed for the improvement of amateurs whose musical knowledge is of a limited order. The society has been in operation twelve months, during which time it has steadily progressed. On July 25th a meeting was held, to celebrate the foundation of the society, when two glees, composed for the occasion by Mr. Clapham, the conductor, and various other songs and glees were, sung by the members.

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ORGANS with two complete Manuals (great and swell), CC to G, 10 stops, 2½ octaves of pedals, and separate CCC Bourdon pipes, artistically designed, speaking front, hand and foot blower, price £90. Smaller instruments, manuals and pedals the same, at £50. Several second-hand, of one manual with pedals, in thorough repair, at from £12. J. Grover, Organ Builder, 112, Kingsland-road, N.

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